AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An optical system configured to guide light emitted from a lamp source to an image display region of a reflection type display device along a predetermined optical path, to use said image display region of said reflection type display device to modulate and reflect a light component, and to project the modulated and reflected light component onto a predetermined screen, thereby forming an image, wherein

a light guiding member for reflecting therein light entering through a light entering surface several times to cause light having a uniform illumination distribution to outgo from a light outgoing surface is inserted into an optical path between said lamp source and said reflection type display device, and

said light outgoing surface of said light guiding member is formed in a dissimilar shape with said image display region of said reflection type display device, and a region irradiated with light in said image display region is smaller than said image display region.

2. (Original) The optical system according to claim 1, wherein

said light guiding member is a rectangular tube member having a reflection surface on an inner surface thereof that faces a hollow space,

said optical system comprising a light shielding member for shielding light passing outside said reflection surface.

3. (Original) The optical system according to claim 2, wherein

said light shielding member is a light shielding plate provided independently of said light guiding member.

4. (Original) The optical system according to claim 2, wherein

said light shielding member is provided on an end face of said rectangular tube member.

5. (Previously Presented) A projection type image display apparatus configured to guide light emitted from a lamp source to an image display region of a reflection type display device along a predetermined optical path, to use said image display region of said reflection type display device to modulate and

reflect a light component, and to project the modulated and reflected light component onto a predetermined screen, thereby forming an image, wherein

a light guiding member for reflecting therein light entering through a light entering surface several times to cause light having a uniform illumination distribution to outgo from a light outgoing surface is inserted into an optical path between said lamp source and said reflection type display device, and

said light outgoing surface of said light guiding member is formed in a dissimilar shape with said image display region of said reflection type display device, and a region irradiated with light in said image display region is smaller than said image display region.

6. (Original) The projection type image display apparatus according to claim 5, wherein

said light guiding member is a rectangular tube member having a reflection surface on an inner surface thereof that faces a hollow space,

said projection type image display apparatus comprising a light shielding member for shielding light passing outside said reflection surface.

7. (Original) The projection type image display apparatus according to claim 6, wherein

said light shielding member is a light shielding plate provided independently of said light guiding member.

8. (Original) The projection type image display apparatus according to claim 6, wherein

said light shielding member is provided on an end face of said rectangular tube member.

9. (Previously Presented) The projection type image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the dissimilar shape of said light outgoing surface comprises an aspect ratio which is different from the aspect ratio of said image display region.

10. (Previously Presented) The projection type image display apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the dissimilar shape of said light outgoing surface comprises an aspect ratio which is different from the aspect ratio of said image display region.

11. (Previously Presented) An optical system comprising:

a light guiding member including an internal reflective surface and a light outgoing surface, the light guiding member being configured to receive light and use the internal reflective surface to repeatedly reflect the light, thereby causing the light to have a substantially uniform illumination distribution as the light is discharged from the light outgoing surface, at least part of the discharged light being transmitted along an optical path; and

a reflection type display device positioned along the optical path, the reflection type display device including an image display region configured to modulate and reflect the at least part of the discharged light, thereby projecting modulated light onto a screen, wherein

the at least part of the discharged light, which is transmitted to the reflection type display device via the optical path, is irradiated on only a portion of the image display region.

12. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 11, wherein the light outgoing surface has a different shape than the image display region, thereby causing the discharged light, which is transmitted to the reflection type

display device, to be irradiated on only a portion of the image display region.

13. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 12, further comprising:

a light source, from which light enters a light entering surface of the light guiding member; and

a light shielding member configured to shield light from the light source, which does not enter the light guiding member through the light entering surface.

14. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 13, wherein the light shielding member is positioned along the optical path between the light outgoing surface and the reflection type display device.

15. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 13, wherein the light shielding member is positioned between the lamp source and the light entering surface.

16. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 13, wherein the light shielding member is a light

shielding plate having a center opening with substantially the same shape and optical axis as the light outgoing surface.

17. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 16, wherein the light shielding member is independently adjustable in relation to the light guiding member.

18. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 13, wherein the light shielding member is a light shielding substance applied to an end face of the light guiding member.

19. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 18, wherein

the light shielding substance is applied to an end face of the light guiding member facing the optical path, the light shielding substance being applied to an outer region of the end face, and

the light outgoing surface comprises a region of the end face not shielded by the light shielding substance.

20. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 18, wherein

the light shielding substance is applied to an end face of the light guiding member facing the light source, and

the light entering surface comprises a region of the end face not shielded by the light shielding substance.

21. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 12, wherein said light guiding member is configured as a rectangular tube, each side of the rectangular tube having a reflective inner surface facing a hollow of the rectangular tube.

22. (Previously Presented) The optical system according to claim 12, wherein said light guiding member is configured as a rod lens.

23. (Currently Amended) The optical system according to claim 12, wherein the light outgoing ~~shape~~ surface of the light guiding member has a different aspect ratio than the image display region.